

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE CONFIRMATION OF THE HONORABLE DANA M. DOUGLAS TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT

**HON. TROY A. CARTER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Investiture of the Honorable Dana M. Douglas, who was confirmed to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit on December 13, 2022 by the Senate, with bipartisan support, following her nomination by President Joseph R. Biden on June 15, 2022. Judge Douglas received her commission on December 16, 2022.

Judge Douglas' confirmation to the Fifth Circuit is undoubtedly historic, but she additionally has the experience, temperament, and integrity to also be a historic judge on the Fifth Circuit. She will be the first Black woman to ever serve on this circuit.

Judge Douglas is a graduate of Miami University (Ohio) and attended Loyola University College of Law in New Orleans. Upon graduation, she served as a law clerk in the United States District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana to the Honorable Judge Ivan L.R. Lemelle. Prior to taking the bench, Judge Douglas practiced in the areas of energy, products liability, and intellectual property litigation in the state and federal courts of Louisiana and across a wide variety of industry sectors as shareholder (partner) in a regional law firm based here in New Orleans.

Judge Douglas has been committed to her community for her entire career. She currently sits on the boards of the Thomas More American Inns of Court and Federal Bar Association. She also serves as the Louisiana Bar Foundation Community Partnership Chairperson for Greater New Orleans. Judge Douglas is a Past President of both the New Orleans Bar Association and the Greater New Orleans Louis A. Martinet Society. She also served as Chair of the 2017 Annual Justice For All Ball, a fundraiser that benefits The Pro Bono Project which provides pro bono civil legal aid services to the underserved in New Orleans. Judge Douglas served as a Vice-Chair and Commissioner of the New Orleans Civil Service Commission. The Commission is the quasi-judicial and policy-making body that exercises oversight of activities of the city's Civil Service Department. She is also a Charter and Founding Member of the Louisiana Chapter of the Women's Energy Network.

Judge Douglas' service to the community has been formally recognized by many. In 2008, she was presented with the prestigious Louisiana State Bar Association ("LSBA") President's Award. She was also twice selected as a "Women of the Year" honoree by New Orleans CityBusiness and a recipient of the 2018 National Bar Association Women Lawyers Division Outstanding Minority Partner

in Majority Firm Award. Judge Douglas is also a past recipient of the LSBA Crystal Gavel Award, the Federal Bar Association Camille Gavel Award, and the Loyola University School of Law Gillis Long Public Service Award.

I was proud to recommend her appointment to President Biden and applaud the Senate on her successful confirmation. Congratulations to Judge Douglas on this momentous achievement. This is a wonderful day for Louisiana and our entire Nation.

SALEM MEDICAL CENTER

**HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, in January, I had the pleasure of attending the ribbon cutting ceremony for Salem Medical Center in South Jersey, which recently became an affiliate of Inspira Health. This medical center offers an abundance of necessary medical services, high quality care, and best-in-class resources to residents in Salem County. These services include mental health resources, cardiology, orthopedics, wound care, gastroenterology, surgical services, urology, bariatric services, and 24/7 emergency services. In addition to providing essential medical services, the Salem Medical Center also employs about 350 people in the South Jersey community. I thank all the staff at the medical center for the crucial work they do for our community, and it was my pleasure to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony. God Bless the Salem Medical Center, and God Bless our United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE AHSAA CLASS 5A STATE TITLE

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Valley High School boys' basketball team for being undefeated and winning the AHSAA Class 5A state title.

On March 4, 2023, the Valley High Rams played fast, leaving no doubt as to who deserves to be state champion, beating Charles Henderson 54–50 to secure their title win. The game was played at BJCC's Legacy Arena in Birmingham, Alabama.

The Rams finished their championship season a perfect 33–0. Coach Marshon Harper led the Rams to become just the 11th boys' team in AHSAA history to be undefeated.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Coach Harper, the Valley High School

boys' basketball team, students, faculty and all the fans. Go Rams.

CELEBRATING NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

**HON. FRANK J. MRVAN**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect and admiration that I rise to celebrate National Women's History Month and its 2023 theme, Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories. Each year, the National Women's History Alliance selects a unifying theme in honor and celebration of Women's History Month. This year's theme recognizes women in present time and throughout history who have played an active role in all forms of media and storytelling including radio, print, screen, television, electronic media, and more.

As we celebrate the many women who have devoted their lives and talents to creating art and seeking the truth through storytelling, I would like to take the time to honor Dorothy Leavell, editor and publisher of the Crusader Newspaper Group, which consists of the Chicago Crusader and Gary Crusader newspapers. The Chicago Crusader was founded in 1940 by Mr. Balm L. Leavell, Jr. and Joseph H. Jefferson. In 1961, they established the Gary Crusader, a publication serving the City of Gary and the community of Northwest Indiana. Dorothy took the helm as editor and publisher after the passing of her husband, Balm, in 1968.

Throughout her career, Ms. Leavell has fought and beat the odds in a male-dominated industry. She remained grounded in her purpose to serve as an advocate for the African American community and has become a successful, accomplished, and innovative business leader. Under Dorothy's leadership, the Crusader Newspaper Group became a voting member of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), a federation of more than 250 African American-owned community newspapers throughout the United States. In 1995, Dorothy became only the second female president of the NNPA, a position she held from 1995 to 1999. She also served as chairperson of the NNPA Foundation from 2006 to 2011. Over the years, Ms. Leavell has received countless accolades honoring her truly remarkable and distinguished career. In addition, Dorothy has generously served her community by giving of her time and efforts to various charitable endeavors. For her exceptional devotion to these earnest causes, Dorothy has received numerous prestigious awards, and she is truly worthy of our admiration.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating Women's History Month and recognizing the dedication, perseverance, and contributions of Ms. Leavell and so many other extraordinary women have made to improve our communities through the stories they tell.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

## USCG AUXILIARY FLOTILLA 8-4

**HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, in January, I had the honor of speaking to a group from the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 8-4 of Absecon Island, South Jersey. The Coast Guard Auxiliary is the uniformed, all volunteer component of the Coast Guard. Comprised of about 23,000 people, these volunteers work with the U.S. Coast Guard to help with non-combatant and non-law enforcement missions. Specifically, Flotilla 8-4 works to promote recreational boating safety in the South Jersey area, as well as assists the Coast Guard through auxiliary food service assistance, pollution response, search and rescue, communications, incident command, emergency management, and air and surface operations. The service Flotilla 8-4 makes the Coast Guard personnel more available for their duties, while at the same time saving taxpayer dollars. It was my pleasure to speak with this group and I want to sincerely thank them for their volunteer work and all that they have contributed to both the U.S. Coast Guard and the South Jersey community. God bless Flotilla 8-4, and God bless our United States of America.

PROTECTING SPEECH FROM  
GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 8, 2023*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 140) to amend title 5, United States Code, to prohibit Federal employees from advocating for censorship of viewpoints in their official capacity, and for other purposes:

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 140, the Protecting Speech from Government Interference Act.

Americans know that if they see something, they should say something. Yet Republicans are offering H.R. 140 which will prevent federal law enforcement and intelligence officers from telling social media platforms when they see something that could cause harm. For example, when Russia mounted a state-sponsored campaign to influence the 2016 presidential election, FBI agents were integral in detecting these actions. In order for our democracy to flourish, we must have the ability to stop the spread of misinformation that could cause harm.

What this bill does is prohibit law enforcement and other federal employees from providing information on personal safety and consumer safety. If passed, H.R. 140 will allow the spread of harmful foreign propaganda, promote hateful and violent content online, and undermine our democracy. This bill is proof that House Republicans would rather protect debunked, right-wing conspiracy theories than the safety of our communities and our democracy.

When Republicans held a markup of H.R. 140 last week, they rejected commonsense

amendments, including proposals that would have created a national security exception, an amendment to help law enforcement prevent violence incited by neo-Nazi groups, and efforts to ensure that federal employees could still share essential public health and consumer safety information.

Mr. Chair, H.R. 140 is yet more proof that Republicans would prefer to fan the flames of far-right conspiracy theories rather than bolster safeguards to American democracy.

It should be rejected.

RECOGNIZING THE JACKSONVILLE  
HIGH SCHOOL BOYS' BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING BACK-TO-BACK 4A STATE TITLES**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Jacksonville High School boys' basketball team for winning back-to-back AHSAA Class 4A state titles.

On March 3, 2023, the Jacksonville Golden Eagles played fast, leaving no doubt as to who deserves to be state champion, beating Westminster Christian 51 to 37 to secure their title win. The game was played at BJCC's Legacy Arena in Birmingham, Alabama.

The Jacksonville Golden Eagles finished their championship season 29-6. This was head coach Tres Buzan's first year and the Golden Eagles' second basketball state title in school history.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Coach Buzan, the Jacksonville High School basketball team, students, faculty and all the fans. Go Golden Eagles.

RECOGNIZING MCFARLAND  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the McFarland Unified School District (MUSD) for being one of nine districts selected as an Exemplary Dual Enrollment Awardee.

Formed in 1889, McFarland Unified School District was one of the first school districts established in the Central Valley. Since its founding, MUSD has provided students with a safe academic environment where they are equipped with the skills and tools necessary to succeed.

This year, the California Department of Education's Exemplary Dual Enrollment program award was started to recognize school districts who provide successful dual credit opportunities to students, allowing them to receive college credits while still in high school. McFarland Unified School District was selected as an awardee based on the demonstrated excellence of their dual enrollment program, which is provided through a partnership with Bakersfield College. MUSD was one of nine districts to receive the award, as their dual enrollment programs are currently helping hundreds of

students in the Central Valley get a head start on their college education and careers.

MUSD's dual enrollment program gives students the opportunity to advance their education in a variety of different fields such as business, education, agriculture, photography, public health, industrial technology, and Spanish. The many teachers, counselors, and faculty across MUSD who have helped to advance and expand the program play a vital role in helping to make students' dreams come true and are creating the next generation of industry leaders across the Central Valley.

I ask all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring McFarland Unified School District as they received the California Department of Education's inaugural Exemplary Dual Enrollment award.

**JOSEPH VICARI****HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I want to honor the achievements of the longest serving Freeholder in the State of New Jersey, Joseph Vicari. Joseph was first elected to public office in 1979 as part of the Dover Township Committee. He held office in Dover Township until 1994, during which he served five years as the mayor. Because of his experience as a teacher, principal, and superintendent, Joseph made improving education in South Jersey a focus during his tenure. He also worked to protect our beaches, successfully fought for a new veteran's clinic, expanded the library system, promoted small businesses, and eased the burden on county taxpayers by seeking the highest possible number of grants. Additionally, Joseph successfully led the county through disasters like Super Storm Sandy and the COVID-19 pandemic. Now, after 43 years of dedicated public service, he has decided not to seek re-election. In his retirement, Joseph plans to spend time with his wife of 51 years, Joyce, his children, and his 2 grandchildren. Throughout Joseph's extensive tenure, he has improved Ocean County for the best and I am very proud of him for all his accomplishments. God Bless Joseph, and God Bless our United States of America.

CELEBRATING THE REMARKABLE  
125 YEARS OF SEASIDE PARK**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, more than a century ago, a group of enterprising self-starters, inspired by the beauty around them, began plans to build a park on the Barnegat Barrier Island in Ocean County.

Although the harsh barrier beach sand precluded their dream of building a park, their desire to create a strong, spirited community centered around the island's natural charm succeeded with the founding of the Borough of Seaside Park exactly 125 years ago today on March 9, 1898.

Throughout this coming year, the residents of Seaside Park are celebrating their 125th anniversary—a remarkable occasion for a thriving community that has accomplished so much over the years and has never lost its beauty or charm while proving to be incredibly resilient in the face of some unfathomable challenges.

Today, the borough is guided by the outstanding leadership of Mayor John Peterson, Jr.—who has served for a total of more than 15 years—and the diligent members of the borough council: President Matthew DeMichele, Frank “Fritz” McHugh, Gina Condos, Ray Amabile, Marty Wilk, Jr., and William Kraft. The Seaside Park community has so much to be proud of as they continue to build on their profound legacy as a community of neighbors who care for each other, warmly welcome tourists and visitors, and cherish the natural beauty of their area.

A life-long resident of Seaside Park and true steward of its breathtaking beaches, Mayor Peterson has embodied the spirit of Seaside and has been outspoken about the dangerous threat posed by the enormous and rushed offshore wind projects to the Jersey Shore, our local environment, the livelihood of local fishermen and the tourism that is the lifeblood of the region. His deep care for the people and our community-wide love for the environment will help ensure Seaside Park continues to prosper well into the future.

Seeing its enormous success today, it's important to note that Seaside Park had a very modest beginning—established first with only a small year-round population.

Reportedly, residents hauled sand to build the first roads in the early days of the borough, and many families raised cattle, horses and chickens.

Just a year after its founding, Seaside Park Union Church—then known as “Chapel by the Sea” was built, soon followed by St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church.

Several markets, five movie theaters, a furniture showroom, an automobile dealership and a blacksmith were the foundation of the town's commercial activity, and a small room over Franklin Harris' General Store on Third and Central Avenues was used as the first classroom for students before a one-story schoolhouse was built in 1902.

Seaside Park's Life Saving Service—established in 1872—played a significant role in the development of the barrier island with stations located nearly every three miles from Barnegat Inlet northward. These buildings later became Coast Guard stations upon the creation of the service in 1915, and most of them still exist and are used today for other purposes.

In 1913, Seaside Park's volunteer fire department was founded, and its company built their first vehicle—a horse drawn hose truck. The large iron gong that alerted volunteers of an emergency sits outside the firehouse at the Municipal Complex to this very day.

Undoubtedly, the extraordinary spirit that moved the founders of Seaside Park to build such a close-knit community on this beautiful island continues to sustain its residents, who have overcome unimaginable trials with incredible fortitude in recent years.

Just a decade ago, Superstorm Sandy devastated Seaside Park, forcing families to abandon their homes that bore the brunt of the historic storm's wrath. Less than a year later, a

raging fire caused by a wire damaged from the storm's intense flooding engulfed several blocks of boardwalk that had been finally rebuilt.

Not too long after, Seaside Park came under attack in 2016 when a terrorist inspired by ISIS and Al Qaeda detonated a bomb along the route of the Seaside Semper Five Marine Corps Charity 5k race. Fortunately, no one was injured—but the shocking explosion on the streets of this small town shook the community, which had suffered three losses in the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Through all these tribulations and more, the residents of Seaside Park have bounced back with great strength and unbelievable resilience. Despite the years, the storms and even the terrorist threat, their incredible tenacity and enduring perseverance—which is the very foundation of their storied beginning—offers great promise for the future of this vibrant community for decades to come.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE END OIL AND GAS TAX SUBSIDIES ACT

#### HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the End Oil and Gas Tax Subsidies Act of 2023. This legislation eliminates nearly a dozen of the most egregious tax breaks enjoyed by the oil and gas industry. President Biden proposed a similar initiative in his Fiscal Year 2024 budget.

The climate is changing. This fact is indisputable, as is the fact that humans are the primary cause of the changing climate. The United States emitted nearly 6 billion tons of greenhouse gases in 2020 and the largest share of greenhouse gas emissions comes from the combustion of fossil fuels.

Despite consistent profitability, fossil fuel companies receive billions of dollars in federal tax breaks and subsidies, which underwrite the costs of continued oil and gas production. These forgone revenues undermine the United States' ability to combat the climate crisis and invest in critical initiatives like education, housing, infrastructure, and healthcare.

Recent analysis released by the Stockholm Environment Institute found that just two oil and gas tax subsidies—the expensing of intangible drilling costs and the percentage depletion allowance—increased the value of new oil and gas projects by more than \$20 billion in some years. These two subsidies alone helped spur and sustain the shale development boom in the United States. Follow-up analysis examining the impacts of continuing these subsidies found that the subsidies increase average rate of return by 55 percent to 68 percent and more than 96 percent of the subsidy value goes to excess profits.

Oil and gas tax subsidies are unnecessary and a wasteful use of hard-earned taxpayer dollars. I look forward to working with my colleagues to rid them from the tax code once and for all.

#### RECOGNIZING THE HEGEMAN FAMILY AS NATIONAL OUTSTANDING YOUNG FARM FAMILY

#### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jon and Amy Hegeman and their children, Ella Kate and Jon Henry for being named National Outstanding Young Farm family. This award is administered by the Outstanding Farmers of America and sponsored by the John Deere Manufacturing Company along with the National Association of County Agricultural Agents.

The Calhoun County farmers received the honor during the Outstanding Farmers of America Awards Congress on February 18th in Appleton, Wisconsin after undergoing an intense application process gauging their farm growth, conservation practices and community involvement.

The Hegemans primarily raise plants for distribution to big-box stores. These plants include Dracaena Spike, English ivy, the polka dot plant, ornamental asparagus plants, Boston ferns, spider plants, purple heart and pothos.

Jon oversees a staff of 42 people in order to satisfy orders. Amy operates an equine business of raising quarter horses and teaching horseback riding lessons while also running the household. The Hegemans attend Grace Fellowship Church in Anniston.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing this young family on this great honor. Congratulations to the Hegemans.

#### CELEBRATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF PARKLAND

#### HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my hometown, the City of Parkland, in celebration of its 60th anniversary.

Parkland is a diverse community of more than 34,000 people that was established in 1963. Nestled in the northwest corner of Broward County at the edge of Everglades National Park, Parkland is unique amongst its neighbors in its dedication to protecting its park areas. Given its name, Parkland boasts nine parks that span the city's landscape, each providing unique opportunities for recreation and relaxation for families. Beyond the parks, Parkland is a picturesque city, with numerous lakes dotting the landscape and tall trees lining the residential streets.

Unfortunately, Parkland has also experienced significant loss. On February 14, 2018, Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School my alma mater, which educates many of Parkland's children, became the scene of one of the deadliest mass shootings in American history. But together, the resilience of this community was shown not only by its ability to unite and heal—but by its strength to transform this trauma into change.

Parkland's residents only add to this beautiful city's wonderful disposition. Family focused, Parkland is a compassionate community united by its residents' diverse lifestyles, promoting a kind and peaceful suburban setting.

For this momentous occasion, the City of Parkland plans to celebrate Parkland Day on March 11, 2023. The first Parkland Day celebration occurred in 1967 when Mrs. Betty Bell, a local artist and two-term commissioner, held an event to show horses on her property. Since then, the event has changed venues to include classic games, such as barrel riding, apple bobbing, egg balancing, cake and pie walks, and horse contests. As the celebration grew, stage performances, live music, food, and new games were added. However, at the center of these events was the continuation of Parkland's community efforts to keep a neighborly hometown feel a central aspect of each Parkland Day.

Mr. Speaker, I again extend a heartfelt congratulations to my hometown on its 60th Anniversary. I grew up in Parkland, my kids are growing up in Parkland, and I hope to see it flourish for years to come.

RON AND LIZ JAWORSKI

**HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, Ron and Liz Jaworski of Cumberland County, South Jersey have been unanimously selected as the recipients of the CEO Group Lifetime Achievement Award. Ron had a distinguished 17-year NFL career, including a Super Bowl appearance, Pro Bowl selection, MVP award, and an Eagles Hall of Fame induction. Ever since he retired from the NFL, he has been teaching and coaching football on both TV and radio as a NFL and Philadelphia Eagles analyst. Additionally, Ron is the host of a podcast about cardiovascular heart health. Liz is also very accomplished and has won many awards. She was honored by the Salem County Chamber as an "Outstanding Female Entrepreneur", was selected as one of the "South Jersey Super Women" by South Jersey Magazine, named a "Woman to Watch" by South Jersey Biz, and was recognized by the NFL Players Association as the "Humanitarian Woman of the Year." Additionally, Liz is a breast cancer survivor. Successfully overcoming breast cancer actually inspired her to serve on the committee for the Pink Roses and Teal Magnolias, which is in support of women who have breast or gynecological cancers. Aside from these successful career accomplishments, Ron and Liz were selected to receive this award because of their philanthropic and civic contributions to the South Jersey community. As a couple, they created the "Jaws Youth Playbook Foundation" through which they have raised over million dollars to improve the health and wellness of at-risk youth in America. Ron and Liz have also held annual bike drives for disadvantaged children and funded numerous parks in the South Jersey area. I want to sincerely thank this selfless couple for their generosity and service, and they should be so proud of all the work they have done. Ron and Liz have truly made a difference in

our community, and they are more than deserving of this award. God Bless Ron and Liz, and God Bless our United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE, LEGACY  
AND MEMORY OF MR. RONALD  
McFADDEN

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise saddened to share the news of the premature demise of one of Kansas City's greatest treasures and a dear friend of mine. Mr. Ronald McFadden. Ronald and his brother Lonnie formed the iconic duo known throughout the world as the McFadden Brothers. The McFadden Brothers graduated from Lincoln High School and after countless hours of musical and tap lessons, performed their first official McFadden Brothers act on July 30, 1983, at the Music Hall with Oleta Adams. Since then, this team performed before thousands of audiences around the world, beginning in Japan in 1976 and later performances with Wayne Newton in Las Vegas during the 1990s. But what some people don't know is that they started performing at the old Muehlebach Hotel in downtown Kansas City, Missouri at the tender ages of 6 and 7 years old where they were led by their father, an extraordinary musician in his own right.

These two were more than just musicians, they were the consummate entertainers. They could sing with the best vocalist, their harmony allowed their audiences to float on clouds, their tap dancing style and choreography evoked memories of the famous Nicholas Brothers, their coordination, timing and precision awed each audience member from every end of the world. Their energy was so electrifying that it captured each audience from the time they stepped upon the stage until their final bow, after what was certainly a memorable experience. Their dynamic brand of multi-discipline performance demonstrated talents that were honed after countless hours of practice and dedication to their craft. In 2016, the McFadden Brothers received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Jazz Museum, and they received the Living Legends Awards from Tapology in October of 2017. In 2022, the McFadden Brothers received the distinction of being enshrined into the Jazz Walk of Fame in the Historic 18th and Vine Jazz District, where I personally congratulated them. During a recent interview after Ronnie's death, Lonnie was asked how significant it was to lose his brother, and Lonnie explained that everyone who knew Ronnie feels as if they lost their closest friend. Lonnie's words reflect my own feelings at the moment, but I have no doubt that Ronnie's presence will continue to be felt for generations to come thanks to his music and the lives he touched.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and all of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District in celebrating the life and legacy of world renowned jazz legend and Kansas City's own, Mr. Ronald McFadden. May his memory be a blessing.

RECOGNIZING RHONDA FREDERICK

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today we recognize and congratulate Rhonda Frederick on her retirement after decades of dedication and service to the Buffalo community. Through her leadership at People Inc., Rhonda has been an indispensable advocate for those with disabilities.

After 43 years working in almost every facet at People Inc., Rhonda was instrumental in starting and developing many programs offered by this essential non-profit. She started her career working in group homes and day services, eventually earning her role as CEO and President. As COO, she built and cultivated important relationships with multiple regulatory and funding agencies including the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), Developmental Disabilities Regional Office (DDRO), U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), NYS Homes and Community Renewal, NYS Department of Health, and NYS Office for the Aging. She played a key role in starting People Inc. Senior Living, which now has over 20 apartment buildings for older adults who meet federally mandated income guidelines. The growth of People, Inc. to its current state of 150 group homes, countless programs, and strong partnerships shows her commitment to realizing an ambitious vision for this organization and our community.

Outside of her extensive official career, Rhonda is extremely active and involved in the community. Currently she serves on the Boards of Hilbert College, New York State Industries for the Disabled (NYSIDD), Special Olympics NY, Amherst Meals on Wheels, and Accountable Health Community Inc. She is the President of Developmental Disabilities Alliance of WNY (DDAWNY) and is involved with WNY iCan Bike—a program that provides tailored and unique opportunities in recreational activities for people with disabilities.

Rhonda's unwavering dedication to the Western New York community makes her worthy of an easygoing and laid-back retirement, but if her career is any indication, she will continue to devote her time to improving senior and disability services. For that and all her efforts over an illustrious career, Western New Yorkers owe Rhonda Frederick a debt of gratitude.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF  
JOHN JOINES

**HON. ERIC BURLISON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of John Joines, a Southwest Missouri public servant, who has spent the last 25 years fighting poverty in his community.

Mr. Joines began his career with the Economic Security Corporation, Southwest Area, in 1997 as a program planner. Within 2 years, he had made such an impact that he became

CEO in 1999 and is only the third person to hold the title since the corporation's 1965 founding. Since taking leadership of the organization, Mr. Joines has grown its workforce to over 300 employees, developed partnerships to create over 200 affordable housing units, worked with the Joplin School District to develop the Bright Futures program, and administered anti-poverty programs to hundreds of thousands of Missouri's low-income individuals and families.

Mr. Joines has served as a City Councilman for Carthage, Missouri, and was appointed by the Governor to a Blue-Ribbon Committee to make recommendations for the Missouri Housing Development Commission. Mr. Joines also served as President of the Missouri Community Action Agency, and was an executive on the Region VII, CAA Board of Directors.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Joines will be serving his last day as CEO of the Economic Security Corporation, Southwest Area, on March 31, 2023. I wish to recognize his career of service to the members of our community as he closes out his career this month.

CELEBRATING THE INCREDIBLE  
LIFE OF ROBERT HOUSTON  
TUCKER, JR.

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 9, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize New Orleans' beloved native son, a true friend, mentor, and confidant. Robert Houston Tucker, Jr. was a master architect in building the city I love. His service to the public over multiple administrations, including work in the offices of Mayors Moon Landrieu and Dutch Morial, was transformational.

Robert H. Tucker, Jr. was born in New Orleans, Louisiana. He was the second of three children born to the union of Robert H. Tucker, Sr. and his wife, Mattie Amacker. Both his parents grew up on large self-sufficient farms (in Franklinton and Greensburg, Louisiana) before finding their way to New Orleans where Tucker's father became a mortician and successful owner of three funeral homes. In later years, Robert H. Tucker, Sr. would become an African Methodist Episcopal minister serving congregations throughout the states of Louisiana and Mississippi.

This aspect of family life was developmentally significant in young Robert's growth as he acquired an understanding of business, strong spiritual values, and a deepened understanding of life as an African American male growing up in the segregated South.

Excellent performances as a student, athlete, and leader, resulted in Tucker receiving upon graduation—in the top 5 percent of his Walter L. Cohen high school class—an academic scholarship to Clark Atlanta University (formerly Clark College). In the process of earning a degree, Tucker built a record as an academic leader, a mature decision maker in campus affairs, and a strong civil and student rights' activist. It was during this period, on March 15, 1960, that he along with scores of similarly inclined young men and women, made history by participating in the first ever lunch counter sit-in at Atlanta's commercial

business district. Tucker's group of approximately 11 students was transported (by local funeral directors) to Sprayberry's Federal Cafeteria where they attempted to eat, were refused service, then arrested by Atlanta police officers. The coordinated Atlanta sit-ins resulted in the arrest of a total of 83 students charged with, "Breaching the Peace", "Refusing to Leave Premises", "Intimidating" the restaurant owners, and "Conspiracy". All charges were subsequently dismissed as the City of Atlanta achieved peaceful integration.

For many years Tucker's father carried in his wallet, the yellowing onion skin letter that his son had typed out and mailed to his parents the night before this tightly orchestrated event would take place.

In follow-up to the sit-in and furtherance of the cause, Tucker and his fellow student activists braved the taunts and threats of old-line Southerners to perform weekend picketing duties in front of Atlanta's many segregated public facilities.

While demonstrating excellent academic skills, Tucker also captained Clark College's first debate team which won tournaments over Harvard, Columbia, and Boston College. He was a consistent 'Best Speaker' and was a major factor in popularizing collegiate debating at Clark College. Tucker added to his undergraduate achievements by winning election to national officer status as the Second Vice Grand Basileus of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity. In May of 1963, Tucker graduated from Clark College with a B.A. (Honors) in Political Science and Economics, with a minor in Psychology. He later gained his master's in business administration (MBA) from Tulane University.

Two months prior to the May graduation, Tucker was interviewed and selected to be one of a small group of African Americans to undergo Ranger training and integrate the National Park Service. Tucker was assigned to Yosemite National Park in California and, following graduation, began work there. (This initiative was brought about by then Pres. John Kennedy's effort to advance opportunities for African Americans in non-traditional sectors of the government.) Subsequent to the conclusion of this historic short-term position in the early autumn of 1963, Tucker took up residence in Los Angeles.

Shortly after the devastatingly tragic assassination of Pres. Kennedy in November of that year, Tucker decided to join the military as he pondered the link between why he was in California and what he could do for his country. After receiving six months basic U.S. Army combat training at Fort Ord, CA (U.S. Army) followed by six months of advanced training at Fort Sumter, SC, Tucker was assigned first to Orleans, France and, a year later, to Korat, Thailand in Southeast Asia.

Returning to his hometown of New Orleans, LA in 1967, Tucker found nothing much had changed insofar as race relations were concerned. The local situation became even more exasperated with the brutal assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King in 1968 in Memphis, TN.

In concert with other concerned African Americans in the community, Tucker led an organized effort to launch an ecumenical march to commemorate Dr. King's death, culminating in the delivery of a set of empowerment demands to City Hall, the seat of a totally segregated governmental structure led by

all white, male elected officials. While none of the elected officials responded to the marcher's request(s), one city councilman by the name of Moon Landrieu quietly observed the protesters visit to City Hall.

A few months later, Moon began speaking with various members of the Black community expressing his intent to seek the office of Mayor in the upcoming municipal elections. Not only did then Councilman Landrieu enter the very crowded field of candidates seeking the mayor's chair, he won the primary and, ultimately the run-off after committing to hire African Americans to meaningful positions, if elected. Tucker was the first African American assistant hired by Mayor Landrieu in 1970, when he became one of 3 Executive Assistants to the Mayor. Over the ensuing 8 years (1970 through 1978) of the Landrieu administration, Tucker played a pivotal role in assisting the Mayor to manage and resolve a variety of municipal challenges.

Never one to shrink from confrontation, Tucker was the critical force in achieving a peaceful solution to an 8-hour standoff between heavily armed members of the New Orleans Police Department and the local Black Panther Party. Tucker's role in the historic 1970 event was captured in great depth in a book by Orissa Arend entitled, "Showdown in Desire—The Black Panthers Take a Stand in New Orleans (2009)." The Landrieu administration blazed an exciting trail of innovation and creative initiatives for an old American city badly in need of diversity, capital improvements, new ideas, vision, and imaginative thinking. Thanks to Mayor Landrieu and the able support provided by stalwarts like Bob Tucker, New Orleans successfully negotiated a major course correction at a critical point in its then 250-year-old history. In 1978 after completing another record of high achievement, Tucker left government and entered the world of business, first as a consultant and, 2 years later, as the CEO of his own firm. Over the next 14 years, Tucker would build a small business that specialized in providing support services primarily to Department of Defense agencies, into a major employer of over 300 individuals.

Along the way, Tucker reciprocated in service back to the community through his charitable participation on a plethora of boards and commissions that included, CAU Board of Trustees, Tulane University President's Council, Distinguished Lecturer Loyola University College of Business, College of Business Visiting Committee, Loyola University, Board of Commissioners, Accrediting Commission of Education for Health Services Administration, Health Education Authority of Louisiana, Executive Education Center, Tulane University School of Business, University of New Orleans Metropolitan Learning Center, New Orleans Superdome Commission, USF&G Sugar Bowl Association, Boy Scouts of America, Junior League, Ochsner Medical Foundation, Metropolitan Young Men's Christian Association, Children's Hospital, Commission on the Future of the City of New Orleans, to name a few.

Tucker served as Chairman of the New Orleans Port Authority, the Regional Transit Authority, the United Negro College Fund, Inc. Telethon, and the Louisiana Special Olympics.

At the time of his passing, he served as Co-Chairman of The National Conference of Christians and Jews (NOCJ) and as a Commissioner to the New Orleans Redevelopment

Authority (NORA). His professional affiliations include: International Business Fellow, London Business School, Member Black/Jewish ADL Delegation to Israel, Life Member NAACP Member, Blue Key Honor Society, Advisory Board Unity Temple, and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. (Former National Officer).

Honors and awards to Tucker include: Heroism in Race Relations 2003—Presented by the Mayor's Office to Commemorate the Peaceful Resolution of the 1970 Confrontation between the Black Panther Party and the New Orleans Police Department; Citizen Hero Award 1994—Presented by Victims & Citizens Against Crime for Actions in Confronting an Armed Convicted Felon; First Citizen of the Learning Society for 1993—University of New Orleans Metropolitan College Dean's Award; Who's Who Among Black Americans; Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities; U.S. Small Business Administration Minority Small Businessperson of the Year—State of Louisiana; Entrepreneur Role Model of the Year, Young Leadership Council; Governor's 1990 Pacesetter Award; Louisiana 1990 Minority Businessperson of the Year; Outstanding Community Service—Kiwanis International, 1983; and Outstanding Man of the Year—New Orleans Jaycees, 1971.

I am so blessed and grateful to have known this phenomenal man, a real Trailblazer and Leader, my true friend.

RECOGNIZING AFRICAN AMERICAN  
RAILROAD WORKERS AT THE  
MINNESOTA TRANSPORTATION  
MUSEUM

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the history of Minnesota's African American railroad workers ahead of the new exhibit at the Minnesota Transportation Museum titled, "Twin Tracks: African American Railroad Workers, 1919–1941" curated by Marvin Anderson of Saint Paul, Minnesota, whose own grandfather worked as a Pullman porter. The exhibit will accurately highlight the crucial role that African American workers played in operating the early railroads by recounting the struggles and triumphs that they endured.

The headquarters of three transcontinental railways constructed in the 1880s were located in the Twin Cities area. In the early 1900s, too many businesses were still refusing to hire African Americans. However, the Pullman Company, a large railway car manufacturer, quickly became the largest private employer of Black men in the nation. Working for the railroad offered young black men in St. Paul an opportunity to make a reasonable wage for the time, although it included difficult and dangerous working conditions. It also provided them with the unique opportunity to travel the country.

These men were referred to as Red Caps, named for the red cap that was part of the uniform that they wore. Their job was to greet passengers and help carry luggage to the train. Working mostly for tips, the Red Caps were known for their friendliness and extensive knowledge of the city that they worked.

Red Caps were largely responsible for enhancing the very positive reputation of the Union Depot in St. Paul, Minnesota. Today at the restored Union Depot, there is a room named in honor of the Red Caps who worked there for more than 70 years.

Another job made available for black men at the time was to be a porter. They were referred to as Pullman porters, named after the owner of the rail company, George Pullman. Often these porters were expected to answer just to "George" regardless of their own name. This is one example of the racism and discrimination that these workers endured, a relic of slavery when slaves were called by the name of their master. Pullman porters often worked up to 20 hours a day without rest tending to the needs of passengers. These needs ranged from serving food and beverages from dining cars, tending to their clothing and bedding and shining shoes.

Red Caps and Porters were an important part of their communities. They were greatly respected, and many were leaders in the historic Rondo community of Saint Paul. Make no mistake, their work was vital to the success of the railroads and to the economic development of St. Paul and greater Minnesota, even though they faced difficult conditions and often dehumanizing treatment from their employers and at times, passengers. Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Marvin Anderson's work paying tribute to the African American railroad workers on display at the Minnesota Transportation Museum.

RECOGNIZING ALVIN PERLMUTTER

**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my esteemed constituents, Alvin Perlmutter.

Alvin is the Executive Producer and Director of the Independent Production Fund, and President of Alvin H. Perlmutter, Inc. and has produced highly acclaimed informational programming for over fifty years. Prior to forming his own company, Mr. Perlmutter served as NBC News Vice President where he was responsible for all network documentaries and news magazine programs, and earlier as Director of Public Affairs Programming and Program Manager of WNBC-TV, New York.

Born and raised in Poughkeepsie, New York, he attended Colgate University and graduated from Syracuse University. Early in his career he was a radio newscaster before serving as Radio-TV Officer in the U.S. 1st Army coordinating with major broadcast networks in the Eastern U.S.

Mr. Perlmutter has received numerous awards including six Emmys for *The Great American Dream Machine*, *Adam Smith's Money World*, and *Joseph Campbell and the Power of Myth* with Bill Moyers; the Peabody Award for *The Public Mind* with Bill Moyers; and five Ace Awards for excellence in programming on cable television for *Consumer Reports Presents*, *Everything You Want to Know About Smoking* and *Money Matters*.

Mr. Perlmutter originated more than 150 documentaries ranging from investigative to social to cultural issues for National Edu-

cational Television (NET) including: *NET Journal*, *Assignment America*, *Black Journal*, *The Drinking American*, *Speak out on Drugs*, *China from Mao to Mastercard* and several art specials from Europe, Russia and the Far East. These documentaries have included: *The Constitution in Crisis*, *The Creative Spirit*, *Great Tales in Asian Art*, *The Public Mind*, *Whose Death is it Anyway?*, *The Emperor's Eye: Art and Power in Imperial China* and *The Priceless Treasures of Dresden*.

He is a former National Trustee of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences and a past Governor of the Academy's New York Chapter. He also served as a member of the Overseas Press Club of America and chairman of the board of both the Washington-based Citizens for Independent Public Broadcasting and the Anti-Defamation League Dore Schary Awards Committee. He was a member of the board of directors of the New York Open Center, the Rockland Center for the Arts, was Chairman of the Board of Advisors of CUNY-TV, the City University's Television Station and testified before the U.S. Senate as President of the Public Television Producers Association. He was a member of the State of New York Governors Commission on Judicial Nominations.

TRIBUTE TO COACHELLA VALLEY  
WATER DISTRICT

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the longstanding relationship between the Coachella Valley Water District, or CVWD, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. In fact, today, these two agencies are celebrating more than a century of partnership to bring Colorado River water to the southwest United States.

One of CVWD's first actions, after being formed in 1918, was to provide farms with a dependable irrigation water supply by importing water from the Colorado River. In 1919, the CVWD board entered into its first contract with the Bureau under the Kettner Bill to survey possible routes for the All-American Canal. A second contract was made under the Kincaid Act in 1921 to survey the route that would eventually bring Colorado River water into the Coachella Valley. In 1934, CVWD executed a contract with the Bureau to participate in the Boulder Canyon Project, which included the construction of Boulder Dam (now Hoover Dam), the All-American Canal, and the Coachella Branch of the All-American. In 1938—20 years after the formation of CVWD—construction began on the Coachella Branch of the All-American Canal. The first segment of the Coachella Canal opened in 1940. The second segment was delayed by World War II but finished in 1943. The remaining segments were built after World War II, and the project was finally completed in 1948.

The Coachella Valley began receiving Colorado River water in March 1949. Shortly thereafter, CVWD developed plans to build a closed pipe distribution system to deliver imported water to farms. The 500-mile distribution system was completed in 1954. Historically, CVWD and the Bureau have prioritized

long-term infrastructure projects to prioritize the efficient use of Colorado River water in the Coachella Valley. CVWD and the surrounding agricultural community have invested heavily in its irrigation delivery system to minimize water loss, including canal lining projects and a closed pipe irrigation distribution system. Agricultural customers are encouraged to irrigate with canal water instead of groundwater. CVWD delivers canal water to more than 1,200 irrigation customers. In addition, more than 60 percent of agricultural customers use drip irrigation systems, which allows the average water application to be less than 3.8 acre-feet per acre.

CVWD, in partnership with the Bureau, implemented significant actions to conserve Colorado River Water. These investments include a 500-mile irrigation delivery system to minimize system losses using pipes and metering 100 percent of properties served. CVWD also lined a 49-mile section of the Coachella Canal that yielded 132,000 acre-feet per year in savings, as well as lined a remaining 35-mile section of Coachella Canal with San Diego County Water Authority and the San Luis Rey Settlement Parties. Today, CVWD and the Bureau are celebrating a \$60 million loan for the Irrigation Lateral Replacement Project. The project replaces ten sections of the aging pipeline and other water management structures to provide reliability in the operation and maintenance of this vital irrigation infrastructure. I want to congratulate both CVWD and the Bureau on their long partnership in delivering water to the Coachella Valley.

#### 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SMOKY VALLEY ROLLER MILLS

#### HON. TRACEY MANN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. MANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the 1898 Smoky Valley Roller Mills in Lindsborg, Kansas. The Smoky Valley Roller Mills served as a vital agricultural and commercial hub to Lindsborg and the surrounding region from 1898 through 1955. The historic building and original equipment were restored and preserved in the 1960s, '70s, and '80s thanks to the efforts of numerous volunteers in the Smoky Valley community. Now, Smoky Valley Roller Mills is preserved in working condition today as an historical treasure, community cultural center, and a beautiful marvel of engineering and ingenuity. I thank the museum board of directors, staff, volunteers, and many members of the Smoky Valley community who are now working diligently to secure the future of the Smoky Valley Roller Mills for future generations to enjoy.

CHARLES COSSABOONE

#### HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, last month, I had the pleasure of attending Charles "Chic" Cossaboone's retirement party. Chic worked

at the Southern State Correctional Facility in South Jersey for 25 years and retired last November as a Senior Corrections Officer. In his free time, he also coached football, wrestling, and lacrosse to the youth in our South Jersey community. Since his retirement, Chic has been spending time with his high school sweetheart, Amy, and his three children, Jessica, Kathleen, and Charley. His future plans include working for Dietz Masonry in Ocean View, South Jersey. It was a pleasure to attend Chic's retirement party and he should be proud of his long and successful career at the correctional facility. God bless Chic, and God Bless our United States of America.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed a vote. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 136.

#### RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER JERUZAL'S SERVICE TO THE CITY OF DEARBORN

#### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Christopher Jeruzal on the occasion of his retirement from the Dearborn Fire Department after almost 20 years of service to the City of Dearborn, Michigan. His significant service to our community is worthy of commendation.

Captain Jeruzal joined the Dearborn Fire Department in 2003 and that same year received a Departmental Commendation. Within the next 2 years, Captain Jeruzal earned the Fire Chief Life Saving Award on three occasions. He consistently moved up the ranks of the Department, being promoted to Fire Engineer in 2015, Lieutenant in 2020, and finally Captain earlier this year. Captain Jeruzal's dedication to duty is evident in earning a Perfect Attendance award in 2018, as well as earning a Military Service Award from the U.S. Navy in 2017 and a Vaccination Center Award when we were at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Over the course of his extensive career, Captain Jeruzal has been the recipient of countless awards for excellence in service including the Meritorious Company Award, Fire Chiefs Unit Recommendation, and seven Safe Driving Awards.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Captain Christopher Jeruzal for his exemplary 20 years of service. He has selflessly served the City of Dearborn in his role as a Captain of the Fire Department and has been steadfastly dedicated to the safety of our community. I join with Captain Jeruzal's family, friends, and colleagues in extending my best wishes to him in retirement.

#### TRIBUTE TO JUDGE RICHARD E. FIELDS

#### HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an esteemed legal trailblazer, beloved community leader, and great mentor. Judge Richard E. Fields transitioned from this life on March 3, 2023, in his hometown of Charleston, South Carolina. His wisdom and character were universally respected and will be sorely missed.

Judge Fields was born on October 1, 1920, in Charleston County, South Carolina. He attended public schools in Charleston before achieving a bachelor's degree in business administration from West Virginia State College. His desire to pursue equal justice for the African American community led him to obtaining a law degree from Howard University, where he graduated in 1947.

Upon graduating from Howard, Judge Fields returned to Charleston and was promptly admitted into the South Carolina Bar Association. He became the first African American attorney to open a law office in Charleston since the early 1900s and the first ever African American litigator. Even during an era of widespread and debilitating discrimination in the South, the quality of Judge Fields' work and character quickly gained the admiration and respect of Charleston's legal community.

After many years in private practice, Judge Fields was selected as a municipal judge for the City of Charleston in 1969 and as a family court judge in 1975, once again breaking barriers as the first African American to serve in each respective position. He continued in that capacity until he was elected to the Circuit Court of South Carolina in 1980, becoming the first African American elected judicial official in the Southeast. After faithfully serving on the Circuit Court bench for twelve years, Judge Fields retired in 1992. His judicial tenure was marked by the unwavering respect he showed to all who appeared before him.

In addition to his law practice and judgeships, Judge Fields employed his passion and intellect to serve his community in countless other ways. In 1950, he formed the Charleston County Political Action Committee to educate African American voters of the power of voting and to elect more African American individuals to office. It was in this capacity that I met and got to know him. He had an astute political mind and became a great friend and mentor. He also served on the boards of many civic and educational organizations, most notably the Board of Trustees of Claflin College, where he served for almost 50 years. Throughout his life, Judge Fields accumulated countless awards and honors for his leadership.

Judge Fields was a man of deep faith. Upon returning to Charleston after law school, he rejoined the Centenary Methodist Church that he attended as a child. He was quickly elected treasurer by the congregation, a position he retained for many decades. He also represented his Church at the United Methodist Church South Carolina Annual Conference for more than 50 years. Judge Fields was a dedicated family man and was married to Myrtle T.



Evans for almost 6 decades before her passing. Together they had 2 children, Mary Diane Fields-Reed and Richard E. Fields, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in honoring the remarkable life of Judge Richard E. Fields. His service as a judge, attorney, community leader, and parishioner made an enduring impact on his community. His brilliance and decency will be remembered by all who were fortunate to meet him.

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HONORING THE LOSS OF KAREN  
HOBERT FLYNN

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I rise today to honor the life and career of Karen Hobert Flynn of Middletown, Connecticut. Karen, a trailblazer in strengthening democracy in Connecticut and nationwide, tragically passed away at the age of 60 on March 3, 2023, after complications from her courageous fight against cancer. Karen's trailblazing work to enact and implement meaningful campaign finance reform in Connecticut has and will continue to have a healthy, positive and direct impact on Connecticut's electoral democracy which is a legacy that will live on for ages. Our state is forever in her debt.

Born in 1962 in Chestnut Hill, Pennsylvania to Susan Forrest and Peter Hobert, Karen moved at an early age with her family to Medford, New Jersey where she graduated high school. From there, Karen attended St. Mary's College in Maryland to receive her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History. Immediately after graduating, in 1985, she started what would transition into a lifelong career at Common Cause as the director of the Campaign Finance Monitoring Project. Over the course of the next decade, Karen also helped organize and direct several other public interest campaigns, which included work for Public Citizen and the Center for Science in Public Interest.

Over time, Karen's passion for good governance itself lead her to embrace the need for robust campaign finance reform. It was that mission that brought her to Connecticut. In 1996, she took on the job of Executive Director of the state chapter of Common Cause. She continued to lead the Connecticut Chapter into the early 2000s and became the organization's state chair in 2001. I first got to know Karen when I joined Connecticut Secretary of State Miles Rapaport's office as Special Counsel on Campaign Finance, and worked with Karen in her quest for reform. As the State Chair of Common Cause, Karen was the go-to expert responding on the front lines

to a political and ethical firestorm, which led to the 2004 resignation and criminal conviction of a former Connecticut governor. With the public revulsion in the wake of that event fresh in the voter's minds, Karen organized the successful push with Connecticut Governor Jodi Rell and Secretary of State Susan Bysiewicz to enact a sweeping Connecticut campaign finance law built around the structure of public financing of elections. The final law created the landmark, nationally renowned Connecticut Citizens Election Program, that today is still the law of the land in Connecticut.

Karen's democratic activism did not end with this milestone. She went on to lead common cause nationally, providing help and assistance to other reform efforts in other states, as well as lobbying Congress for federal campaign finance reform. Though she kept focus on growing the mission of Common Cause, doubling its membership and reach to 30 states, she also maintained a watchful eye on the electoral safeguards her organization effectuated. She repeatedly stepped in to thwart partisan efforts to undermine the Election Program. By 2016, Karen was rightfully named President of Common Cause at a time when national attacks on our democratic norms and institutions began to spin out of control. Needless to say, Karen was a tireless defender of our system of government, a fierce advocate for legislative efforts which have passed this body in previous sessions—the For the People Act—and a tenacious fighter of corruption at all levels of our political system.

Mr. Speaker, the life of Karen Hobert Flynn has greatly improved accountability standards within the State of Connecticut, as well as what Americans expect across the country. In her passing, Karen joins the ranks of many likeminded and fierce advocates who dedicated themselves to creating a stronger Union and community. I offer my sincere condolences to her friends and family, specifically her husband, Robert Flynn and four sons, John, Peter, Daniel and Michael, siblings, as well as everyone at Common Cause. We cannot soon hope to replace the void of her loss, and her principled vision for an inclusive democracy. To that end, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in remembrance of Karen Hobert Flynn and preserve her life and works.

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HONORING THE SERVICE OF KYLE  
KLEIN

**HON. MARK E. GREEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kyle Klein for his distinguished career in service to the House Committee on Homeland Security and the United States Congress.

A graduate of Liberty University, Kyle started his career as an intern for the House Committee on Homeland Security. Through his hard work and determination, he worked his way up the Committee's ranks, from Professional Staff Member to a Subcommittee Staff Director, and finally as the Committee Staff Director.

Kyle is a dedicated public servant and policy expert with deep knowledge of the Department of Homeland Security's functions and policies. Through over a decade of service at the Committee, he has served under five different chairmen or ranking members. His leadership has helped focus our Committee on the top priorities at hand: the crisis at our southern border, the increasing threats to our Nation's cybersecurity, and the critical need to reform and reauthorize the Department of Homeland Security.

Kyle has developed great working relationships with Members and staff across the aisle. Additionally, Kyle was instrumental in this transition as Republicans took the House Majority and the Committee on Homeland Security gained a new Chairman.

Kyle has our deepest gratitude, and I am confident he will continue to distinguish himself in his future endeavors. On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I commend Kyle for his diligent service and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

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RECOGNIZING THE SPRING GARDEN  
HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING  
THE AHSAA CLASS A STATE  
TITLE

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2023*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Spring Garden High School girls' basketball team for winning the AHSAA Class A state title.

On March 3, 2023, the Lady Panthers played fast, leaving no doubt as to who deserves to be state champion, beating Marion County 62 to 39 to secure their title win. The game was played at BJCC's Legacy Arena in Birmingham, Alabama.

The Lady Panthers finished their championship season 36–1. This was head coach Ricky Austin's 7th state championship and the Lady Panthers' 8th basketball state title in school history.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Coach Austin, the Spring Garden High School Lady Panthers' basketball team, students, faculty and all the fans. Go Panthers.